

Government Accountability Board

State of Wisconsin

212 E. Washington Ave., Third Floor ▪ Madison, WI 53703 ▪ gab@wi.gov ▪ (608) 266-8005 ▪ Help Desk (608) 261-2028 ▪ <http://gab.wi.gov>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Reid Magney, 608-267-7887

Recall Petition Update 3

Madison, WI – The Government Accountability Board today completed delivery of all digital copies of recall petitions to Governor Walker’s committee for their review.

In total, G.A.B. staff scanned more than 152,300 petition pages for the Governor’s recall, of which approximately 71,000 were delivered earlier this week. The Board has not yet estimated the number of signatures on the petitions, as the signature review process is just beginning.

The G.A.B. is currently verifying the completeness and accuracy of scanned petition pages for Lt. Governor Kleefisch, and expects to complete that work sometime next week.

On Monday, copies of the Governor’s recall petitions will be posted online at <http://gab.wi.gov> for public viewing. Click the link “Recall Petitions Online” on the homepage. Since the four Senate recall petitions went online last week, the website has had more than 16,000 unique visitors and more than 410,000 page views. In Wisconsin, recall petitions are public records.

Earlier this week, Judge Richard Niess granted the Board’s request for a 30-day extension to the 31-day statutory deadline for completing its review of the petitions, giving the Board a deadline of March 19. Judge Niess also granted the four Senate incumbents a total of 20 days and the Governor and Lt. Governor a total of 30 days in which to file petition challenges. The clock for challenges starts the day after the incumbent receives copies of his or her petitions.

G.A.B. workers are now reviewing petition signatures for the four Senate recall petitions and the Governor’s recall petitions. Crews will be working from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the week and from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Recall petition processing is happening at an undisclosed state facility in Madison. For security reasons, the location of the processing center is not being released until all the scanned petition pages have been verified for completeness and accuracy.

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The Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The G.A.B. is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members.